AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium comprising instructions, which when executed on a processor cause the processor to perform a method for a first computer to participate in electronic business, the method comprising:

predefining a sequence of business transactions to be executed in a first computer, the sequence being predefined according to received sequence modification input;

creating a business schema by combining the predefined sequence with ~~assigning a~~ at least one document assigned to ~~each business transaction in~~ the sequence of business transactions, the at least one document to be combined with the predefined sequence of business transactions being selected according to a received context selection for identifying the at least one document;

storing the business schema in a central repository;

supporting communication between the first computer having a processor and a second computer having a processor via a communication module;

loading the business schema from [[a]] the central repository via the processor in the first computer, and a schema module, wherein the business schema provides a communication format applied to the document assigned to one of the business transactions, wherein the communication format enables the first computer to participate in electronic business with the second computer;

executing the sequence of business transactions between the first computer and the second computer; and

storing at least one document assigned in the business schema.

2. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the second computer is under control of a second computer program that has substantially the same functions as the first program.

3. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 2, wherein the communication module supports communication with a third computer under control of a third computer program being a business application, and wherein the predefined communication format provided by the business schema enables the first computer to participate in electronic business with the third computer.

4. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 3, wherein the communication module forwards the documents to the second computer and to the third computer for interpreting and processing by the second and third computer programs, respectively.

5. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the first computer is a personal computer.

6. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the communication module is adapted to use program resources on the first computer that are selected from a group, the group comprising: a word processing tool, a email tool, a browser tool, and a graphic user interface tool.

7. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the communication module is adapted to support communication with a business application, the communication module being implemented as a back-end of a client/server application.

8. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the communication module supports communication with the business application being an ERP system.

9. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the communication module is adapted to communicate via a protocol selected from the group of: ebXML messaging, SOAP, and WSDL.

10. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 1; wherein the schema module provides a selection mask to a user of the first computer to select a context for identifying documents and transactions.

11. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein the context is selected from the group of: business process, product classification, industry classification, geopolitical, official constraints, business process role, supporting role, and system capabilities.

12. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein the selection mask has pull-down options.

13. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein a service module combines input received from a user of the program with data from the repository to generate data that goes into the business document.

14. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13, wherein the service module cooperates with the schema module to forward business documents with input data into the repository.

15. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13, wherein the service module stores a downloaded schema locally on the first computer.

16. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13, wherein the service module modifies the schema in cooperation with the user of the first computer.

17. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13, wherein the service module uses graphic representations on an output device of the first computer to show a current status in a sequence of the business schema and to modify the sequence.

18. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the service module indicates an arrival of documents to the first computer and opens the documents in the layout that has been defined by the sender of the documents.

19. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the communication format comprises XML-based UBL.

20. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein layout data of documents and business data of documents are separated.

21. (Currently Amended) A method to participate in electronic business in a computer network system having a first computer having a first processor, a second computer having a second processor and a third computer having a third processor, the method comprising:

predefining a sequence of business transactions to be executed in a first computer, the sequence being predefined according to received sequence modification input;

creating a business schema by combining the predefined sequence with ~~assigning a~~ at least one document assigned to ~~each business transaction in~~ the sequence of business transactions, the at least one document to be combined with the predefined sequence of business transactions being selected according to a received context selection for identifying the at least one document;

storing the business schema in a central repository;

loading the business schema from [[a]] the central repository with the first processor to transact business that the first computer transacts with the second computer and with the third computer, wherein the sequence of business transactions is executed in a predefined format that is used by the second computer and by the third computer;

communicating according to the business schema between the computers, wherein a first program executed by the first processor on the first computer interacts with both a second program executed by the second processor on the second computer and interacts with a business application executed by the third processor on the third computer;

executing the sequence of business transactions among the first, second, and third processors; and

storing at least one document assigned in the business schema.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein communicating is supported by a communication module on the first computer and wherein the communication module communicates using a communication format wherein the communication format comprises XML-based UBL.

23. (Currently Amended) A system for executing electronic business, the system comprising:

first and second computers interconnected and communicating through a network, the first and second computers being controlled by first and second programs executed on a first processor in the first computer and a second processor in the second computer, respectively, and network interfaces for communicating through the network,

wherein the first computer includes a display for displaying data and operations related to the business and a received user input for allowing a user of the first computer to provide data input for executing the business, and further

wherein the first computer processor, executing the first program includes a schema module to load a business schema from a central repository, the business schema comprising a combination of at least one document assigned to the sequence of business transactions that is selected according to a received context selection for identifying the documents and a predefined sequence of business transactions to be executed between the first computer and the second computer and documents that are assigned to each business transaction in the sequence of business transactions, the sequence being predefined according to received sequence modification input, wherein

the business schema uses a predefined format that enables business communication between the first and second computers.

24. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the second program on the second computer has a schema module with features that are substantially equivalent to the schema module of the first program.

25. (Currently Amended) A method to operate a first computer to participate in electronic business, the method comprising:

predefining a sequence of business transactions to be executed on a processor in the first computer the sequence being predefined according to received sequence modification input;

creating a business schema by combining the predefined sequence with at least one ~~assigning a~~ document assigned to ~~each business transaction in~~ the sequence of business transactions, the at least one document to be combined with the predefined sequence of business transactions being selected according to a received context selection for identifying the at least one document;

storing the business schema in a central repository;

operating a communication module to support communication between the first computer and a second computer;

operating a schema module to load, by the processor, the business schema from [[a]] the central repository, wherein the business schema provides a predefined communication format applied to a document assigned to each business transaction

among the sequence of business transactions, wherein the communication format enables the first computer to participate in electronic business with the second computer and;

executing the sequence of business transactions on the first computer; and

storing at least one document assigned in the business schema.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the communication module is operated to support communication with a third computer under control of a business application, and wherein the predefined communication format provided by the business schema enables the first computer to participate in electronic business with the third computer.

27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the communication module is operated to forward the documents to the second computer and to the third computer for interpreting and processing.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein operating the schema module includes providing a selection mask to a user of the first computer to select a context for identifying documents and transactions.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 further comprising operating a service module to combine input received from a user of the first computer with data from the repository to generate data that goes into the business document.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the service module cooperates with the schema module to forward business documents with input data into the repository.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the service module stores a downloaded schema locally on the first computer.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the service module indicates an arrival of documents to the first computer and opens the documents in a layout that has been defined by the sender of the documents.